

**MIDDLE ATLANTIC
Region 1
HHS-N-276-2011-00003-C
Student Newspaper Digitization Project
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Table of Contents

Executive Summary.....	3
Approaches and Interventions Used.....	4
Evaluation Activities.....	5
Problems or Barriers Encountered.....	6
Continuation Plans.....	7
Impact.....	8
Lessons Learned.....	9
Other.....	10
Attachment 1 – AR summary data: Subcontractor activities.....	11

Executive Summary

The Schaffer Library of Health Sciences at Albany Medical College, in partnership with the Albany Medical Center Archives, digitized, and provided online access for the Albany Medical College student newspaper collection. The collection contains three former student newspapers, The Albany Medical Nexus, 1978-1999, The Differential, 2002-2003, and Student Perspectives, 2004-2005. The project goals were to digitize 2.4 cubic feet of the student newspaper collection and provide online access by making the collection available through the Albany Medical College's website.

The target audience includes all health professionals associated with Albany Medical Center, all Albany Medical College students, professors, employees, alumni and the general public. The content may also be of interest to others researching culturally significant information contained in the Student Newspaper Collection.

The digitized Student Newspaper Collection can be found on the Albany Medical College Alumni website: <http://alumni.amc.edu/page.aspx?pid=587>. The collection was previously only available onsite and by appointment.

Minority Populations Served

African Americans: No
American Indians/Alaska Natives: No
Asian Americans: No
Hispanics/Latinos: No
Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islanders: No
Other: No

Approaches and Interventions Used

The goals of this project were to [1] digitize and preserve 2.4 cubic feet of the student newspaper collection through the purchase of a new scanner and software, and [2] provide online access by making the student newspaper collection available through the Albany Medical College's website.

The project was accomplished through the following steps. First, a scanner and software were purchased and installed. Second, each edition of the student newspapers was scanned to create a digital version. Third, the digitized collection was posted on the Albany Medical College website, enabling access.

Library and Archive staff worked together as a team to complete the project.

Evaluation Activities

All of the original project goals were achieved. The newspapers have been digitized and are now available 24/7 through the website. A brief survey is included on the site. As of April 30, 2012, three people have completed the survey attached to the page. All three rated the collection useful.

Problems or Barriers Encountered

There were no significant barriers to completing the project. Minor adjustments were made to optimize the quality of the scanned newspapers prior to uploading them to the webpage.

Continuation Plans

Access to the Student Newspaper Collection on the AMC Archives webpage will continue indefinitely and it will be maintained by the AMC Archives. Additionally, the Archives will continually monitor the survey to determine interest. There are currently no plans to expand or replicate this project.

Impact

This project enables anyone with an Internet connection to access the Albany Medical College Student Newspaper Collection. In addition to providing access to an otherwise inaccessible resource, this project will likely increase the visibility of the AMC Archives and the historical information found there, ultimately leading to increased use of the collection.

Lessons Learned

Partnership and teamwork are essential. Library and Archive staff collaboration were vital to successful implementation and project completion.

Other

View the collection at <http://alumni.amc.edu/page.aspx?pid=587>.

Attachment 1: AR summary data: Subcontractor activities